Comprehensive Timeline

I. Ancient and Classical Foundations (3000 BCE – 600 CE)

- **3000 BCE – 1200 CE:** The **Polynesian Migration** took place over nearly 4,000 years, beginning in modern-day Taiwan and spreading across the Pacific Islands, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Madagascar.
- **2000 BCE – 1697 CE:** The **Maya civilization** established a series of city-states in the Yucatan Peninsula, lasting from its ancient roots until the fall of its last city to Spain.
- **3rd Century CE:** A semi-unified kingdom first claimed control over most of **Japan**, though the central government remained weak compared to other imperial states.
- **2nd Century – 19th Century CE:** The **Champa kingdoms** existed as a collection of independent polities along the coast of central and southern Vietnam.
- **5th Century CE:** Following the **fall of Rome**, Europeans lacked a central authority, leading to the development of the decentralized **manorial system** or feudalism.
- **581 – 618 CE:** The **Sui Dynasty** reunited the Han peoples of China for the first time since the fall of the Han Dynasty, building the Grand Canal and initiating the Confucian exam system.
- **600 CE:** Knowledge of **paper and printing techniques** passed from China into India.

II. The Post-Classical Era (600 CE – 1450 CE)

- **600 – 1200 CE:** The **Kingdom of Ghana** thrived in West Africa as a major center for the gold and slave trades.
- **618 – 907 CE:** The **Tang Dynasty** ushered in a period of cultural and territorial growth in China, exceeding the size of the previous Han Dynasty.
- **670 – 1025 CE:** The **Srivijaya Civilization** flourished in Southeast Asia, utilizing its strategic location at the gateway to China to dominate trade.

- **7th Century CE:** The **Taika Reforms** were attempted in Japan to adopt Chinese-style centralized government and culture, though the political centralization failed.
- **700 CE:** Paper and printing techniques reached the **Abbasid Caliphate** from India.
- **750 – 1100s:** A **global warming period** occurred, which increased agricultural output by allowing for longer growth seasons and farming further north.
- **755 – 763 CE:** The **An Lushan Rebellion** devastated the Tang Dynasty, leading to a long period of decline in their power.
- **795 CE:** The **Viking Age** began with a raid on Lindisfarne, England, initiating three centuries of Norse raiding and settling across Europe.
- **8th – 12th Century CE:** The **Srivijaya** kingdom served as an important center for the expansion of Buddhism in Indonesia.
- **8th – 12th Century CE:** The **Arab Migration** involved the movement and conquest of ethnic Arabs across the Middle East and North Africa, spreading Islam.
- **8th – 16th Century CE: Muslim merchants** were the dominant trade force in the Indian Ocean, forming diasporic communities and spreading Islam to non-uniform religious areas.
- **802 – 1431 CE:** The **Khmer Empire** (or Angkor Empire) existed as a Hindu-Buddhist power in Southeast Asia.
- **840 – 846 CE: Emperor Wuzong** of the Tang Dynasty issued edicts that effectively annihilated Buddhism in China by destroying temples and confiscating wealth.
- **960 – 1279 CE:** The **Song Dynasty** unified most of China and initiated an early industrial revolution in steel and iron.
- **After 1000 CE:** Arab traders began crossing the **Sahara with camels and caravans**, establishing a firm Muslim presence in West Africa.
- **By 1000 CE:** Venetian merchants gained control of **Mediterranean trade** by forming agreements with the Byzantines and select Muslim states.

- **Around 1000 CE:** Norse Vikings discovered and temporarily settled **Vinland** in North America.
- **1025 – 1290 CE:** Following the decline of Srivijaya, its successor, the **Majapahit Empire**, began to rise in Java.
- **1037 CE:** The **Seljuk Empire** was founded by Turks from Central Asia, eventually conquering Persia and eastern Anatolia.
- **1071 CE:** The Seljuks won the **Battle of Manzikert**, seizing Anatolia from the Byzantine Empire.
- **1095 – 1099 CE:** The **First Crusade** was launched by Western Europeans partly in response to the Byzantine loss of Anatolia to the Seljuks.
- **11th – 13th Century CE:** The city of **Angkor** reached its peak, becoming the largest pre-industrial urban center in the world.
- **11th – 14th Century CE:** The **Turkic Migration** saw Turkic peoples conquer regions in Central Asia, India, and the Middle East, ending Byzantine and Arab influence in the Eastern Mediterranean.
- **11th – 15th Century CE:** Construction took place on the city of **Great Zimbabwe**, which served as a capital and trade hub for gold and ivory.
- **12th – 13th Century CE:** The **Zagwe dynasty** ruled parts of present-day Ethiopia and Eritrea until their defeat by the Solomonic dynasty.
- **1150 CE:** Paper and printing techniques reached **Spain**.
- **1150 – 1250 CE:** The **Seljuk Empire declined**, eventually falling to Mongol invaders.
- **1200 CE:** The **settlement of New Zealand** by Polynesian peoples marked the end of their 4,000-year migration.
- **1206 CE: Genghis Khan** was proclaimed the ruler of all Mongols, unifying nomadic tribes to begin their conquests.
- **1206 – 1526 CE:** The **Delhi Sultanate** dominated most of the Indian subcontinent as an Islamic empire.
- **1220 CE:** The Mongols under Genghis Khan conquered **Samarkand**, a strategic trade city in Central Asia.

- **1230 – 1670 CE:** The **Mali Empire** rose in West Africa, famously led by rulers such as Mansa Musa.
- **1254 – 1324 CE:** Lifetime of **Marco Polo**, a Venetian Christian who traveled the Silk Roads to China.
- **1258 CE:** The Mongols destroyed the **House of Wisdom** in Baghdad, ending a major center of the Islamic Golden Age.
- **1260 CE:** The **Mongols invaded Anatolia**, dividing it into small regions called Emirates.
- **1270 – 1636 CE:** The **Solomonic dynasty** governed the Ethiopian Empire, maintaining it as a largely Christian state.
- **1279 CE:** The **Mongolian-led Yuan Dynasty** conquered and absorbed the Song Dynasty.
- **1279 – 1368 CE:** The period of **Yuan Dynasty rule** in China by non-Han peoples.
- **1290 CE:** The **Majapahit Empire** was largely responsible for the final fall of the Srivijaya kingdom.
- **1290 – 1500 CE:** The **Majapahit Empire** existed as one of the last and most powerful maritime empires in Indonesia.
- **1294 CE: Kublai Khan died**, leading to the fragmentation of the Mongol Empire into four distinct khanates.
- **13th Century:** The **Aztecs** migrated south to the Valley of Mexico and used military force to conquer neighboring peoples.
- **13th Century:** The **Inca civilization** originated in the Peruvian highlands of the Andes mountains.
- **1300 CE:** Paper and printing techniques finally reached **Germany and France**.
- **1300 – 1850 CE:** The **Little Ice Age** caused a global temperature drop of about 1 degree, slowing population growth and agricultural production.
- **1304 – 1369 CE:** Lifetime of **Ibn Battuta**, a Moroccan Muslim scholar who traveled over 72,000 miles throughout the Islamic world.

- **1358 CE:** The **Hanseatic League (HANSA)** was formed as a security agreement between merchant guilds in Northern Europe.
- **14th Century: Timur**, a Turko-Mongol conqueror, established Samarkand as the capital of his empire.
- **1405 – 1433 CE: Zheng He** led several state-sponsored naval expeditions from Ming China to the Indian Ocean to broadcast Chinese power.
- **1415 CE: Jan Hus**, an early religious reformer, was executed by the Catholic Church.

III. The Early Modern Era (1450 CE – 1750 CE)

- **1450 CE:** The city of **Great Zimbabwe was abandoned** due to factors such as trade decline, gold mine exhaustion, or climate change.
- **1453 CE:** The **Ottoman Turks sacked and captured Constantinople**, ending the Byzantine Empire.
- **1462 – 1505 CE:** Reign of **Ivan III (Ivan the Great)**, who unified the Russian state by defeating Novgorod.
- **1464 – 1592 CE:** The **Songhai Dynasty** ruled in West Africa, becoming the largest sub-Saharan state after conquering Mali.
- **1478 CE:** The **Spanish Inquisition** was established to maintain Catholic orthodoxy.
- **1491 CE:** The **Manikongo** (ruler of the Kongo Kingdom) converted to Roman Catholicism after contact with the Portuguese.
- **1492 CE: Christopher Columbus** completed his first voyage to the Americas, and the **Jews were expelled from Spain**.
- **1493 – 1528 CE:** Reign of **Askia the Great**, a devout Muslim who expanded the Songhai Empire and built religious schools.
- **1497 CE: Jews were expelled from Portugal**.
- **1500 – 1700 CE:** The **old noble elites were equalized or surpassed** in power and wealth by the emerging gentry merchant class and centralized monarchs.

- **1502 – 1750 CE:** The Portuguese enforced the **cartaz**, a mandatory trade permit for ships in the Indian Ocean.
- **1505 – 1533 CE:** Reign of **Vasili III**, who continued his father’s work in adding more Rus people to the Russian state.
- **1506 – 1736 CE:** The **Safavid Empire** re-established Persia as a major power and established Shi'a Islam as its state religion.
- **1509 CE:** The **Battle of Diu** resulted in a Portuguese victory over Muslim forces for control of the Indian Ocean trade routes.
- **1517 CE: Martin Luther wrote the 95 Theses**, sparking the Protestant Reformation.
- **1517 – 1648 CE:** Europe was plagued by **religious wars** between Catholics and Protestants, resulting in millions of deaths.
- **1520 – 1566 CE:** Reign of **Suleiman the Magnificent**, during which the Ottoman Empire reached its peak expansion and threatened Central Europe.
- **1526 CE:** The **Mughals defeated the Delhi Sultanate** to begin their rule over India.
- **1526 – 1857 CE:** The duration of the **Mughal Empire** in the Indian subcontinent.
- **1529 CE:** The **first Siege of Vienna** saw Catholic forces hold off an Ottoman land advance into Europe.
- **1547 CE: Ivan IV (Ivan the Terrible)** came to power as the Tsar of Russia.
- **1555 CE: Akbar the Great** consolidated Mughal power by gathering the support of local Hindu and Sikh kingdoms.
- **1565 CE:** Ivan IV **divided Russia into two parts**, establishing the Oprichnina under his absolute control.
- **1571 CE:** The **Battle of Lepanto**, a massive naval conflict where Christian forces won control of the Mediterranean Sea from the Ottomans.
- **1600 – 1868 CE:** The **Tokugawa Shogunate** ruled a unified Japan during the Edo Period.

- **1600 – 1874 CE:** The **British East India Company** operated as a powerful charter company administrated by the British monarch.
- **1618 – 1648 CE:** The **Thirty Years War**, the final major religious war in Europe, which marked the decline of Spain and the rise of France.
- **1630s:** The Tokugawa Shogunate **banned and eliminated the Western presence** in Japan.
- **1635 – 1659 CE:** The **Franco-Spanish War** took place, during which the French supported a rebellion in Catalonia against the Spanish king.
- **1637 CE:** The **Shimabara Rebellion**, a peasant revolt in southern Japan that led the Shogunate to initiate the isolationist policy of *Sakoku*.
- **1640 – 1659 CE:** The **Catalan Revolt** occurred in Spain, resulting in the loss of Spanish territory to France.
- **1644 CE:** The **Ming Dynasty fell** to Manchu invaders, who established the **Qing Dynasty**.
- **1648 – 1653 CE: The Fronde**, a series of civil wars in France where nobles unsuccessfully resisted the centralization of King Louis XIV.
- **1670 – 1957 CE:** The **Asante Empire** existed in modern-day Ghana, unified by the symbol of the Golden Stool.
- **1675 – 1678 CE: Metacom's War** (King Philip's War) took place in New England, becoming the deadliest war in the history of American colonization.
- **1682 – 1725 CE:** Reign of **Peter the Great**, who modernized Russia and moved the capital to St. Petersburg.
- **1683 CE:** The **second Siege of Vienna**, which ended the Ottoman threat to land-based Europe.
- **1710s:** The **Boston bread riots** occurred as a result of goods shortages caused by European wars.